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Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 195710

70
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 195710

FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 4120 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BERN
BONN PARIS PRETORIA VIENNA 15 AUG

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4120

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TGEN, ENRG, NL
SUBJECT: PROPOSED US-DUTCH-SWISS SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS
TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: THE HAGUE 3221; STATE 193297

SUMMARY: EMBASSY HAS CONVEYED TO DUTCH US POSITION ON SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO SOUTH AFRICA. DUTCH OFFICIAL ASKED WHETHER US CONDITIONED SALE ON SOUTH AFRICAN ADHERENCE TO NPT AND IAEA SAFEGUARDS. END SUMMARY

1. WE DISCUSSED CONTENTS OF STATE 193297 AUGUST 15 WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL VAN VLIET, WHO IS COORDINATING GON ACTIVITIES WITH REGARD TO PROPOSED REACTOR SALE TO SOUTH AFRICA. VAN VLIET EXPRESSED THANKS FOR RECEIPT OF INFORMATION, BUT SAID THAT HE WAS UNCERTAIN WHETHER DUTCH CABINET WOULD TAKE ANY DECISION AT THEIR WEEKLY MEETING TODAY, ALTHOUGH HE ACKNOWLEDGED ITEM WAS ON AGENDA. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. VAN FLIET WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN NATURE OF USG REPRESENTATIONS TO SAG ON SAFEGUARDS AND NPT. HAD WE DIRECTLY LINKED SALE BY US OF FUEL AND PLANT TO SAG ADHERENCE? WE RESPONDED THAT US HAS MADE KNOWN OUR CONCERNS

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ABOUT SOUTH AFRICAN NON-ADHERENCE IN GENERAL WAY (STATE 193297 APPEARS TO US TO LEAVE OPEN OPTION TO PROCEED WITHOUT SAG ADHERENCE.) MOREOVER, WE NOTED THAT, SINCE CONGRESS WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO REVIEW EXIM BANK LOAN, SALE WOULD CAUSE SOME POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN US, WHICH WOULD BE EASED BY POSITIVE SAG ACTION ON NPT.

3. DUTCH FIRM WOULD ALSO HAVE TO HAVE GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL SUPPORT, VAN VLIET SAID, AND COMMENTED THAT BOTH USG AND GON FACE SIMILAR POLITICAL PROBLEMS, ALTHOUGH IN NETHERLANDS THERE IS PROBABLY GREATER SENSITIVITY THAN IN US. GON HOPES, THEREFORE, THAT SAG WILL SUBJECT ALL NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS, INCLUDING GENERATORS, TO INTERNATIONAL SAFEGUARDS, AS WELL AS ADHERE TO NPT.

4. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION ABOUT WHAT GON IS DOING TO ENCOURAGE SAG, VAN VLIET RECOUNTED RECENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTRY STATE SECRETARY KOOIJMANS AND SOUTH AFRICAN AMBASSADOR BOOYSEN. KOOIJMANS ASKED HIS CALLER HOW SAG EVALUATED SAFEGUARDS CONFERENCE THAT TOOK PLACE IN GENEVA IN MAY. BOOYSEN SAID SAIG ATTITUDE WAS QUITE POSITIVE; ALTHOUGH SOUTH AFRICA HAS NOT SIGNED SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT, IT IS IN PRACTICE FOLLOWING IAEA RULES. BOOYSEN ALSO STATED THAT SAG IS REVIEWING WHOLE QUESTION OF NPT/IAEA SAFEGUARDS.

5. VAN VLIET PROMISED TO KEEP US INFORMED OF DUTCH ACTIONS AND WE DID LIKEWISE FOR US.

6. WE WILL PURSUE THIS MATTER FURTHER WITH GON AT EARLY OPPORTUNITY.
BROWN UNQUOTE SISCO

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 18 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: WorrelSW
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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